

11/05/04

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. .... 09/458,300  
Filing Date ..... 12/10/99  
5 Inventorship ..... McMahon  
Applicant ..... Microsoft Corporation  
Group Art Unit ..... 2613  
Examiner ..... B. Senfi  
Attorney's Docket No. .... MS1-365US  
10 Title: Layered Coding and Decoding of Image Data

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 08/04/2004

15 To: Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Kayla D. Brant (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)  
Customer No. 22801

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Technology Center 2600

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated 8/04/2004, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set for 11/04/2004.